



FlexMail 4

Overview



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FlexMail Introduction

General

- FlexMail is a software program developed to meet the requirements of users who need to print variable data, from direct mail to product labels.
- FlexMail offers an extensive range of postal features to prepare mailing lists and design postal items.
- The combination of FlexMail and the integrated Printer Modules or Printer Drivers developed by Flex Systems helps to get the most out of the supported printers.



FlexMail Introduction

Editions and Modules

FlexMail 4.0 Editions

- A Basic edition for users that have basic variable printing needs.
- An Advanced edition for users that require data management and data cleansing functionality, and advanced design features.
- A Professional edition for users working with mail tables and environments that require extensive printer support and interfacing (e.g. read and print, print and verify).

Additional printer modules

- Print Pro I: supporting Inc.Jet, XiJet HP and LX, Lexmark Mustang and Palomino.
- Print Pro II: supporting XiJet KM4, TTP Meteor.

FlexMail Data Preparation Datasheet

Link to any type of database and prepare, select and sort the data for a project simply and rapidly.

	[ID]	[FIRST]	[LAST]	[COMPANY]	[STREET]	[SUITE]	[CITY]	[S...]	[Z...]
1	1	GERALDINE	SERA DALE	OFFICE SYSTEMS PLUS	4545 HIGHWAY 17 BYP S		ALEXANDRIA	VA	22
2	2	RENE	DAVID EWAN	SOURCE ONE MORTGAGE SRV CORP	PO BOX 12159		SAINT PAUL	MN	55
3	3	LESLIE	VAN KIRK	ART PRINT SHOP	1150 15TH ST NW		SALINE	MI	48
4	4	VAR	BRUNO, JR.	FIRST NATIONWIDE BANK	PO BOX 13008		WICHITA	KS	67
5	5	FRED	PERRY, JR.	PRINT IT PLUS	PO BOX 11239		DALLAS	TX	75
6	6	M.	MACKIN, JR.	CONTROL DATA	PO BOX 7		ALBUQUERQUE	NM	87
7	7	S.	GRANT, JR.	KENTUCY HOUSING CORP	175 VARNER DR SW		MEMPHIS	TN	38
8	8	TOM	REID, JR.	BEVINS MGMT	1015 4TH ST SW		SEATTLE	WA	98
9	9	RHONDA	LORENTE, JR.	GUICERS PLUS	PO BOX 11942		NASHUA	NH	03
10	10	TERRY	KAUFFMAN, MD.	WASHINGTON POST	PO BOX 20047		HOUSTON	TX	77
11	11	JUDY	ATIBA-WEZA	KANSAS CITY CTY OF AVIATION DEPT	PO BOX B		FAIRFIELD	ME	04
12	12	MEL	ROBITAILLE	SPEEDIEST PRINTER IN TOWN	2444 STEWART DR NW		HILLIARD	FL	32
13	13	E. F.	HARRAH	COLLEGE OF SAINT ROSE	PO BOX 90073		MICHIGAN CITY	IN	46
14	14	BOB	BARKER	MEDICAL UNIV OF SC/PROCUREMENT DEPT	PO BOX 20403		KANSAS CITY	MO	64
15	15	WILLIAM	CALAMITA	PALO VERDE UNIFIED SCHOOL DIST	PO BOX 10187		DALLAS	TX	75
16	16	KIM	MADDEN	STONE & WEBSTER ENG CORP	89 CABOT CT STE H		ORANGE	CA	92
17	17	KYM	STANLEY	SACRAMENTO DECK	4201 LEXINGTON AVE N		WASHINGTON	DC	20
18	18	SUSAN	LAYMON	GREATHEAD GENERAL PRG	PO BOX 19668		COSTA MESA	CA	92
19	19	WALTER	MARLER	JOHNSON & QUIN	PO BOX 4		NEWARK	NJ	07
20	20	A.	LASKER	THE ELECTROCHEMICAL SCTY	39 MEADOW ST STE B		MOORESTOWN	NJ	08
21	21	D. J.	HANNAH	HARRIS INTL	PO BOX 10381		SALEM	OR	97
22	22	LARRY	ALLAN	TRIDENT PRINTING CORP	PO BOX 37847		BERRYVILLE	VA	22
23	23	STEVEN	DRABANT	LETTER PERFECT COMM SVCS	409 32ND AVE STE M		LAKELAND	FL	33
24	24	RIC	HAYNES	FRANKLIN LIFE	PO BOX 37000		DAYTON	OH	45
25	25	BOB	BAUMGARTEN	PARTNERS QUALITY EXCL	300 PARK AVE FL 17		LA GRANGE PARK	IL	60
26	26	ROBERT	VAN KIRK	CENTRAL SOYA	115 E 23RD ST FL 10		WAYNE	PA	15
27	27	ERLENE	TAYLOR	BUREAU WORKERS COMP	926 GALLATIN ST NW		NEW YORK	NY	10
28	28	MARVIN	WARWAS	JERRY GEISEN & SONS	902 B WAY		FORT WORTH	TX	76
29	29	SEAN	SALEEM	AMERICAN NATIONAL BANK	PO BOX 55276		BATON ROUGE	LA	70

FlexMail Data Preparation Datasources

Databases

- Link direct to all industry format databases.
- Use Wizards to link to tekst and Excel files.
- Open PDF-files in the FlexMail Advanced version.

Additional datasources

- Counters for (sequential) numbering.
- Date/time fields in any format.
- Dynamic fields based on Visual Basic macros.
- Look-up fields to link to other databases or translate codes to text or filenames.
- Postal functions to easily generate contents of indicia and postal barcodes (e.g. the USPS Intelligent Mail barcode).

The image shows two overlapping dialog boxes from the FlexMail software. The background dialog is titled 'Postal Field' and contains the following information:

- Name: IMB Contents
- Postal field: (empty)
- Country: United States
- Type: Intelligent Mail Barcode
- Options table:

Setting	Value
Tracking code	
Barcode Identifier	23
Service Type identifier	0
Mailer identifier	123
Serial number	[Counter1]
Routing code	
ZIP	[ZIP]
7n + 4	
- String type: Numeric returns a formatted string of digits that can be used to produce the barcode. Alpha returns a formatted string with bar types (A, D, T, F) that you can use as input for the barcode font from USPS.
- Preview (Record 54): 2300000012300000005420006460443

The foreground dialog is titled 'Counter' and contains the following information:

- Name: Counter 1
- Values:
 - Start Value: 1
 - Increment: 1
- Format:
 - Adjust minimum length to: 5 Chars
 - Fill character: 0
- Preview (Record 5): 00005

FlexMail Data Preparation

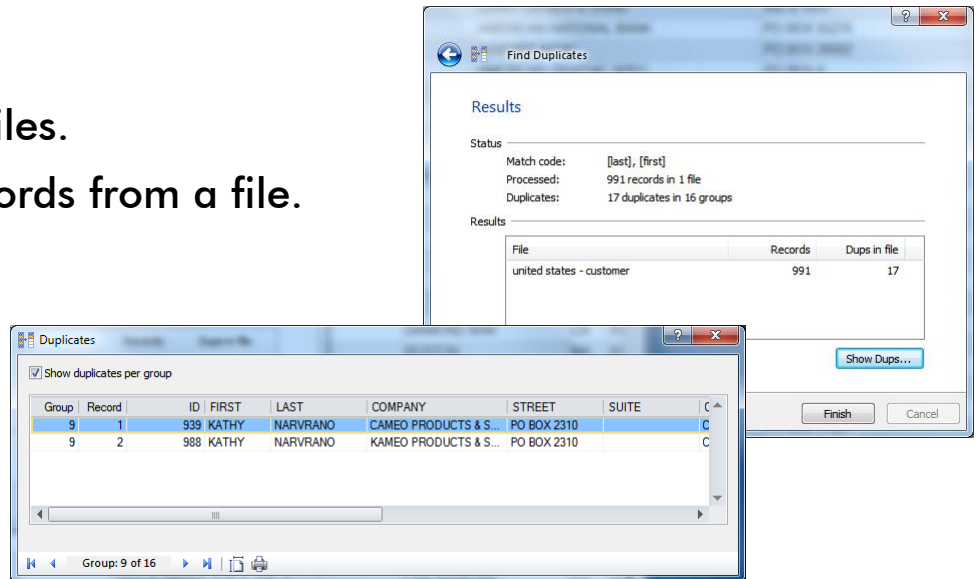
Data tools

Selecting and Sorting

- Easy to use filter and sort functions.
- Build filters and sorts by selecting fields on screen or by filling out dialogs.
- Save selections and sort order as queries that can be recalled at any time.

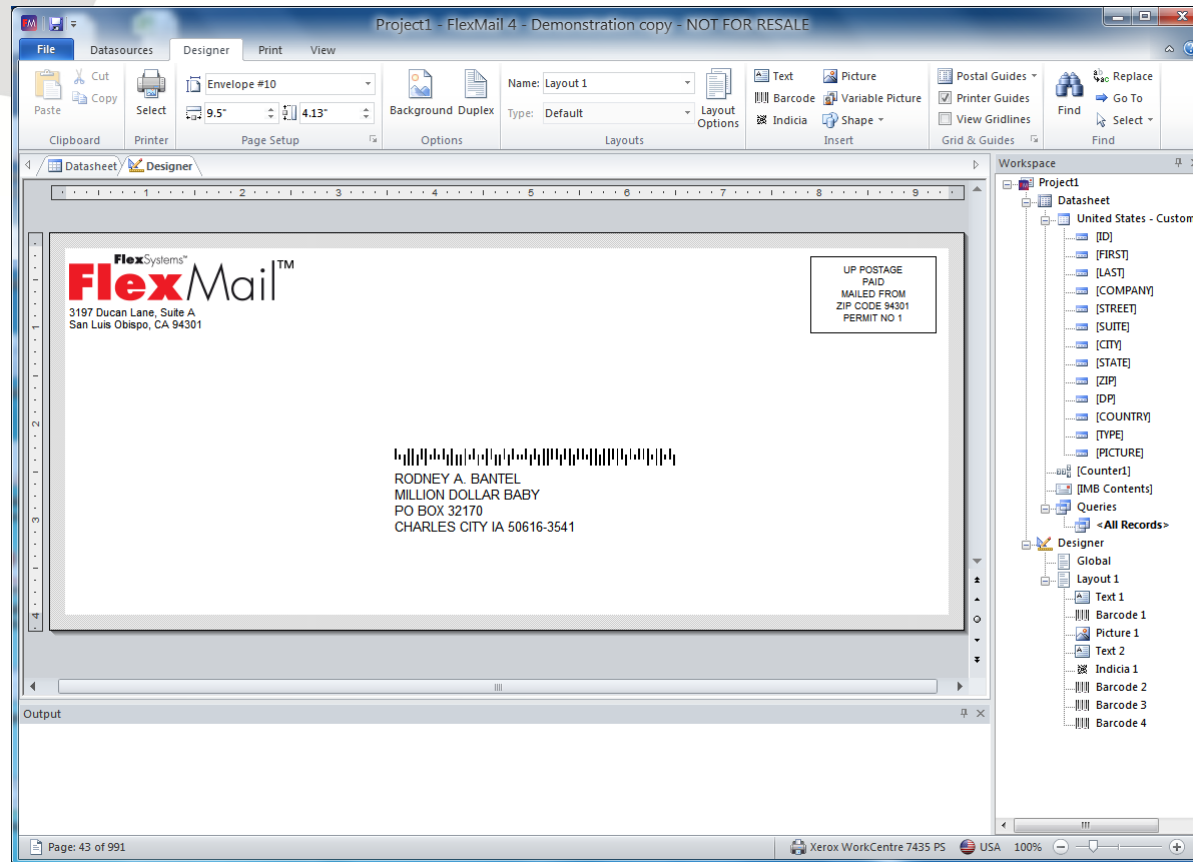
Data tools

- Define, locate and process duplicates.
- Combine records from different input files.
- Process suppression lists to remove records from a file.
- Export and convert databases.



FlexMail Designer Overview

Design variable-data documents, labels, and envelopes. Layouts may include variable and static text, any kind of barcode, variable and static graphics, postal indicia, and more.





FlexMail Designer

Features

Layouts

- Work on any paper size. Support for all standard envelopes, paper, label sheets and continuous label sizes, plus user defined sizes.
- Create multiple layouts in a single project. Conditionally select the layout to be printed or print multiple layouts per record in the database. Duplex printing is also supported.
- Add a background image that can serve as background for design purposes, but may also be printed.

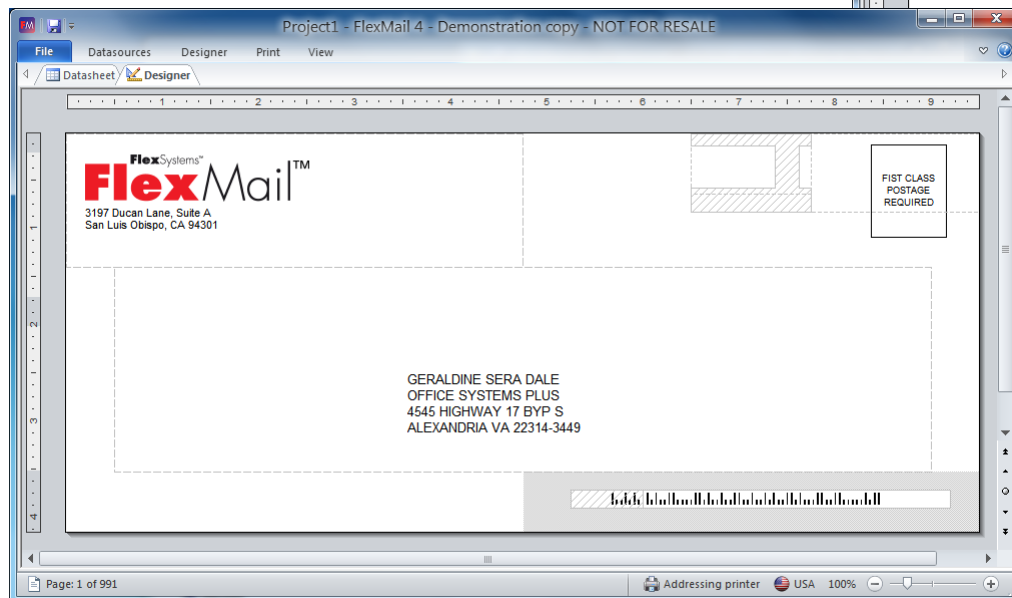
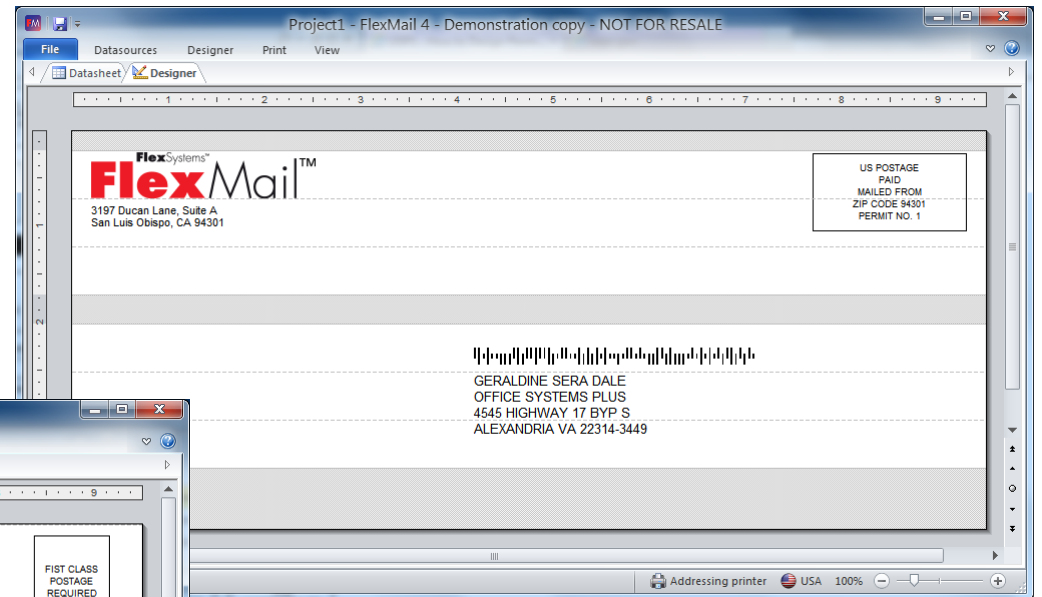
Design Elements

- Fixed or variable text.
- Supports over 80 different barcode (1-D, 2-D, and postal).
- Fixed and variable graphics.
- Add postal indicia for many countries.

FlexMail Designer Printer and Postal Guides

Guides

- Printer guides help to design a layout that can be printed at high quality and the highest possible speed by your printer.



Postal guides are available to help you to design mail pieces that conform to the postal specifications.



FlexMail Printing Features

Functionality

- Helps the user to optimize the design for the printer.
- Uses the capabilities of the printer without the user knowing it.
- Gives full 'production' control over the printer.

Features

- Automatic use of overlays / macro's for fixed elements.
- Configurable print breaks / print pauses.
- Pre-purge of print heads.
- Keep-alive function to avoid drying out of nozzles.

FlexMail Printing Production

Print Production Control

- Easy to use and flexible queueing mechanism to select the records to be printed.
- Records marked on the datasheet indicating their print status. Synchronized view of designer and/or datasheet with records actually being printed.
- Print bar displaying all available feedback from the printer, including print speed, estimated completion time and more. When available, ink levels are displayed with the possibility to stop at low ink level.
- Support for printing on multiple printers simultaneously.

The screenshot displays the FlexMail 4 software interface. The main window shows a 'Project1 - FlexMail 4 - Demonstration copy - NOT FOR RESALE' with a menu bar (File, Datasources, Data Tools, Postal, Sheet Layout, Print, View) and a toolbar. Below the menu is a 'Queue' section with a 'Printer' dropdown set to 'Addressing printer' and a 'Status: Ready' indicator. The main area is a 'Datasheet' with columns for [ID], [FIRST], [LAST], and [COMPANY]. The data rows are as follows:

[ID]	[FIRST]	[LAST]	[COMPANY]
91	RANDY E.	TALLEY	GREAT NW COMMUNITY ASSN
92	G.	BARTLE	GRAND ISLAND FIRE
93	TIMOTHY O	WAGNER	CAPARRA VIDEO & ELEC
94	R.	CZERWONKA	WESEL WORD
95	SUSAN	BRADLEY	PACK N MAIL
96	L.	GAVINI	AMERICAN LEAD CONS
97	MARY	LITALIEN	SPENCER 4 HIRE
98	DENISE	BALLOK	C M ALMY & SON
99	J.	SAUTER	DATA-FLOW
100	WILLIAM V.	JOHANSEN	US PAK-N-SHIP
101	G. R.	MARCHI	ALAN HEFTY & CO., PC
102	C.	ADAIR	M PRESS PUBLISHING CO 15258
103	SHAYNE	BOATMAN	AFTAB 786 CO
104	J.	ALLEN	COL MOR ASSOCIATION
105	J. C.	HANLEY	DAKOTA WESLEYAN UNIV
106	N.	HARRIS	FRANKLIN LIFE
107	TRICIA	PARKER	IBM CORPORATION
108	THOMAS	BURGI	DATAMATX
109	JOHN	GREENBLATT	GENESIS RELOCATION
110	RAUL A.	BROWN	BELLARMINE CLG DATA CIR
111	M.	RIBAUDO	KINCO CORPORATION

At the bottom of the main window, it shows 'Record: 43 of 991' and 'Addressing printer USA 100%'.

Overlaid on the right is a 'Printbar' window. It shows the printer 'Mustang on Flex0201' with a status of 'Ready' and a progress bar at '1%'. Below this, it displays 'Pages' statistics: 'Records to print: 4783', 'Records printed: 58', and 'Pages printed: 58'. Further down, it shows 'Print time: 13:52:34', 'Elapsed time: 00:00:07', 'Time left: 00:09:30', and 'Completion time: 14:02:11'. At the bottom of the Printbar, there is an 'Ink level' section with a 'Settings...' link and a bar chart showing ink levels for various colors. A 'Synchronize view' button is also present.

FlexMail Printing Scripting

Production Line Integration

- Read-and-Print
- Synchronized document inserting and printing
- Print verification.

Functionality

- Connect to external input devices like camera systems and barcode readers and process their input.
- Look-up information in a database, update databases, save information to files,
- Print complete designs,
- Send control signals to other devices.

The screenshot displays the FlexMail Scripting Editor interface. The main window shows a VBA script for processing document properties. The script includes a loop that iterates through document properties and assigns object types based on their names. A 'Function Info' window is open, providing details for the 'WriteBytes' function.

```
49 objProp = Project.GetDocProperties( DocProperty.ObjectNames )
50
51 If objProp IsNot Nothing then
52     sArray = objProp
53     nCount = 1
54
55     For Each sElement As String In sArray
56
57         nObjType = Project.GetObjProperties( sElement, ObjProperty.Type )
58         Select Case nObjType
59             Case ObjType.Empty
60                 sObjType = "Autoshape"
61
62             Case ObjType.Text
63                 sObjType = "Text box"
64
65             Case ObjType.Picture
66                 sObjType = "Picture"
67
68             Case ObjType.Barcode
69                 sObjType = "Barcode"
70
71             Case Else
72                 sObjType = "Unknown"
73         End Select
74
75
```

Function Info

WriteBytes Function

Writes the specified array of bytes to the output buffer.

`WriteBytes(data As Byte[])`

Parameters

data
Byte array that represents the data to be written to the port.

Result

Returns True if the data could be send, otherwise False.

Remarks

Use this method when you want to write to a byte buffer to create output to a serial port.



FlexMail Technical

- FlexMail is available in Dutch, English, French, German, Italian and Spanish.
- FlexMail runs on Windows XP and newer (all 32- and 64 bit versions) including the upcoming Windows 8 version.
- FlexMail supports printers either by:
 - In-house developed printer drivers (32 and 64 bit versions).
 - Through direct connection to printers (Print Pro I and II modules).
 - Any printer over Windows printer drivers.
- Live update over Internet.



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